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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/809,063	03/24/2004	Nandan Sunder Rajan	24008-08285	6981

758 7590 05/04/2006

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EXAMINER

EKONG, EMEM

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2617

DATE MAILED: 05/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/809,063	RAJAN, NANDAN SUNDER	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	EMEM EKONG	2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 and 39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 and 39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 11, 20, and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U. S. Publication No. 2003/0063590 A1 to Mohan et al. (Mohan).

Regarding claim 11, Mohan discloses a computer based method for establishing communication channels between an originating user and a target user, the method comprising: receiving a record registration message, recording registration message including one or more target user attributes; and a network identifier for a target user communication unit (pars. 0028-0031, 0040-0043, and 0086, at registration time, the database stores the class of service records, and subscriber profile).

Mohan discloses storing in a target user record the target user attribute and the network identifier for the target user communication unit (pars. 0031, and 0040-0041); receiving a communication request message from an originating user, the communication request message including an attribute of the target user (pars. 0046, 0074, and 0086).

Mohan discloses determining the network identifier of the target user communication unit by relating the communication request message with the target user

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record to identify an attribute match (see figure 4, pars. 0046, and 0075 the MPCM server/MM retrieval unit uses the called party phone number to retrieve the called party's personal profile ID);

establishing a communication channel between the originating user and the target user at least in part by routing communications from the originating user to the network identifier of the target user communication unit (pars. 0075, and 0079).

Regarding claim 20, Mohan discloses a system for establishing communication channels between an originating user and a target user, the system comprising: means for receiving a record registration message, the record registration message including a target user attribute and a network identifier for a target user communication unit (see figures 5, and 10, pars. 0029-0031, 0040-0043, 0086, database stores the class of service records, and subscriber profile at registration time);

means for storing in a target user record the target user attribute and the network identifier for the target user communication unit (pars. 0031, and 0040-0041, i.e., database, MMS Server);

means for receiving a communication request message from an originating user, the communication request message including an attribute of the target user (see figure 6, pars. 0074, and 0086, i.e. switch);

means for determining the network identifier of the target user communication unit by relating the communication request message with the target user record to

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identify an attribute match (pars. 0045-0046, and 0075, the MPCM server/MM retrieval unit uses the called party phone number to retrieve the called party's personal profile);

means for establishing a communication channel between the originating user and the target user at least in part by routing communications from the originating user to the network identifier of the target user communication unit (see figure 6, and pars. 0075, and 0079, MPCM service).

Regarding claim 39, Mohan discloses a computer readable medium comprising a computer program that when executed in a computer processor implements (see figures 6-10) the steps of: receiving a record registration message, the record registration message including one or more target user attributes and a network identifier for a target user communication unit (pars. 0028-0031, 0040-0043, and 0086, at registration time, the database stores the class of service records, and subscriber profile);

storing in a target user record the one or more target user attributes and the network identifier for the target user communication unit (pars. 0031, and 0040-41); receiving a communication request message from an originating user, the communication request message including an attribute of the target user (pars. 0046, 0074, and 0086);

determining the network identifier of the target user communication unit by relating the communication request message with the target user record to identify an

attribute match (see figure 4, pars. 0046, and 0075 the MPCM server/MM retrieval unit uses the called party phone number to retrieve the called party's personal profile ID);

establishing a communication channel between the originating user and the target user at least in part by routing communications from the originating user to the network identifier of the target user communication unit (pars. 0075, and 0079).

3. Claims 1-5, and 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mohan in view of U.S. Patent No. 5918179 to Foladare et al. (Foladare).

Regarding claim 1, Mohan discloses an attribute based communication system for establishing communication channels between an originating user and a target user (pars. 0007, and 0075).

a registration database communicatively coupled with the switch via message routing equipment, the registration database configured to store a target user record indicating a correlation between the network identifier of the target user communication unit and one or more associated identification attributes of the target user (pars. 0034, and 0040-0043); and

a registration center communicatively coupled with the access switch and the registration database (par. 0031, registration module).

However, Mohan fails to specifically disclose an access switch associated with an originating user communication unit, the access switch configured to receive a communication request message from the originating user communication unit and determining a network identifier of a target communication unit based on the

communication request message, the communication request message including an identification attribute of the target user.

Foladare discloses an access switch (see figure 1, network switch) associated with an originating user communication unit, the access switch configured to receive a communication request message from the originating user communication unit and determining a network identifier of a target communication unit based on the communication request message, the communication request message including an identification attribute of the target user (col. 4 line 14-col. 5 line 3); and registration center configured to receive record editing messages from the target user to modify the associated identification attributes in the target user record (col. 9 lines 7-20, CRP).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Mahan, and have an access switch associated with an originating user communication unit, the access switch configured to receive a communication request message from the originating user communication unit and determining a network identifier of a target communication unit based on the communication request message, the communication request message including an identification attribute of the target user and configure registration center to receive record editing messages from the target user to modify the associated identification attributes in the target user record for the purpose of routing request message to target user.

Regarding claims 2-5, the combination of Mohan and Foladare discloses the

system of claim 1, wherein the originating and target user communication units are wireless telephones;

wherein the messages are messaging service messages; and the messaging service is a Short Messaging Service and a Multimedia Messaging Service (Mohan, see figure 1, pars 0033, and 0038).

Regarding claims 7-10, the combination of Mohan and Foladare discloses the system of claim 1, further comprising a signal connection point communicatively coupled to the access switch and configured to provide the network identifier of the target communication unit to the switch in response to a switch target network identifier determination request;

wherein the signal connection point is further communicatively coupled to the registration database for retrieving the network identifier of the target communication unit based on the one or more associated identification attributes of the target user;

wherein the message routing equipment is at least part of a wireless communications network;

wherein the wireless communication network operates according to at least one protocol associated with one of the group consisting of GSM, DCS, PCS, PCD, GPRS, Bluetooth, and IrDA (see figure 1, and pars. 0036-0043).

4. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mohan in view of Foladare as applied to claim 3 above, and further in view of U.S. Publication No.

2005/0215250 A1 to Chava et al. (Chava).

Regarding claim 6, the combination of Mohan and Foladare discloses the system of claim 3. However the combination fails to disclose wherein the communication request message includes a virtual phone number.

Chava discloses wherein the communication request message includes a virtual phone number (par. 0166).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the combination, and have the communication request message includes a virtual phone number for the purpose of routing a request message to a roaming or unavailable subscriber.

5. Claims 12, 13, and 15-19, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mohan in view of U.S. Publication No. 2005/0117729 A1 to Reding et al. (Reding).

Regarding claims 12, 13, and 15-19, Mohan discloses the method of claim 11, wherein the communication units are telephones and the network identifiers are telephone numbers;

wherein the communication units are wireless telephones and the messages are short messaging system messages; and

wherein the attribute further includes a time period;

wherein the record registration message includes plurality of target user attributes, and further wherein the time period in the in each of the plurality of target

user attributes indicates which attribute values are available for relating the communication request message with the target user record during a particular time (see figure1, pars 0033, 0038, 0040, and 0043).

However, Mohan fails to disclose wherein the attributes include an attribute name and an attribute value;

wherein the attributes include one of the group consisting of an occupation, a visually displayed alphanumeric string, a relative location, a set of GPS coordinates, and a visible personal characteristic;

wherein the communications from the originating user include voice data associated with a telephone call.

Reding discloses wherein the attributes include an attribute name and an attribute value;

wherein the attributes include one of the group consisting of an occupation, a visually displayed alphanumeric string, a relative location, a set of GPS coordinates, and a visible personal characteristic;

wherein the communications from the originating user include voice data associated with a telephone call (pars. 0026, 0031, and 0087-0088).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Mohan, and have the attributes include an attribute name and an attribute value; wherein the attributes include one of the group consisting of an occupation, a visually displayed alphanumeric string, a relative location,

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a set of GPS coordinates, and a visible personal characteristic for the purpose of routing a request message to an appropriate target user.

6. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mohan in view of Chava.

Regarding claim 14, Mohan discloses the method of claim 11, however, Mohan fails to disclose wherein establishing the communication channel between the originating user and the target user further comprises concealing the network identifier of the target user communication unit from the originating user.

Chava discloses concealing the network identifier of the target user communication unit from the originating user (pars. 0161-0167, virtual number is assigned to interfacing gateway which uses these numbers for assigning temporary routing numbers, message is then redirected to the intended recipient).


Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention the invention of Mohan, by concealing the network identifier of the target user communication unit from the originating user as disclosed by Chava for the purpose of security.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to EMEM EKONG whose telephone number is 571 272 8129. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5 Mon-Fri..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lester Kincaid can be reached on 571 272 7922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


EOE
4/20/06


NICK CORSARO
PRIMARY EXAMINER